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Message Text

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60
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15

NEA-10 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 IO-14 OIC-04 AEC-11 OMB-01

DRC-01 /142 W
---------- 101611
R 270901Z MAR 74
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2189
SECDEF WASHDC
INFO USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 2693

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS; FROM US REP MBFR

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, NATO
SUBJECT: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: AD HOC GROUP
CHAIRMAN'S WEEKLY REPORT, 18-24 MARCH

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF AD HOC GROUP CHAIRMAN'S WEEKLY REPORT
FOR 18-24 MARCH AS APPROVED BY AHG MARCH 26:

BEGIN TEXT:

1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRPAH 67 OF C-M(73)83 (FINAL), THE
FOLLOWING REPORT IS SUBMITTED, FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH THE
OTHER MEMBERS OF THE AD HOC GROUP, AS THE REPORT OF THE CHAIR-
MAN (UNITED KINGDOM) ON THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE AD HOC GROUP
FOR THE WEEK ENDING 24 MARCH.

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2. ON 21 MARCH THE UNITED KINGDOM REPRESENTATIVE DELIVERED IN

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PLENARY SESSION A FURTHER ALLIED STATEMENT, SETTING OUT IN
FULL THE ARGUMENTS FOR A PHASE I REDUCTION LIMITED OT US
AND SOVIET GROUND FORCES, WHICH THE GROUP HAD PREVIOUSLY
DISCUSSED AND APPROVED.

3. THE GROUP RECEIVED A REPORT OF THE COUNCIL'S DISCUSSION OF
MBFR ON 15 MARCH AND OF THE SUGGESTION THAT THE GROUP SHOULD
SUBMIT A WRITTEN REPORT IN ADVANCE OF THE NEXT ORAL BRIEFING
SCHEDULED FOR 5 APRIL. CONSIDERING THAT SUCH A REPORT WOULD
HAVE TO BE PREPARED MORE THAN ONE WEEK BEFORE THE END OF
THE CURRENT SESSION AND THAT IT COULD NOT BE COMPLETED IN TIME
FOR GOVERNMENTS TO CONSIDER IT FULLY BEFORE THE COUNCIL'S
DISCUSSION, THE GROUP DECIDED INSTEAD THAT THE FULL TEXT
OF THE NEXT ORAL REPORT SHOULD BE AGREED IN DETAIL BY THE
GROUP, AND THAT THE GROUP'S REPRESENTATIVE, AFTER READING IT
TO THE COUNCIL, SHOULD DISTRIBUTE THE TEXT. THE REPORT WILL
CONSIST OF AN ASSESSMENT OF THE PRESENT SITUATION AND A CATALOGUE
OF POINTS RAISED BY WARSAW PACT DELEGATIONS WHICH GOVERNMENTS
AND THE COUNCIL MIGHT WISH TO CONSIDER. IT WILL ALSO
LIST ISSUES AT PRESENT UNDER STUDY IN NATO.

4. THE GROUP APPROVED SPEAKING NOTES FOR THE INFORMAL MEETING
OF 18 MARCH AND REVIEWED THE RESULTS OF THAT MEETING WHICH
HAD BEEN MAINLY CONCERNED WITH THE ISSUE OF AIR AND NUCLEAR
FORCES. EASTERN REPRESENTATIVES AGAIN CONCENTRATED ON POLITICAL
AND PSYCHOLOGICAL FACTORS IN ARGUING FOR REDUCTIONS OF AIR
AND NUCLEAR FORCES; WHILE ADMITTING THE DIFFICULTY OF COMPARING
DIFFERENT TYPES OF AIRCRAFT THEY CLAIMED THAT THEIR PROPOSAL
FOR A "SYMBOLIC" REDUCTION WOULD AVOID THIS DIFFICULTY SINCE
IT WOULD FOCUS ON ONLY CERTAIN TYPES OF AIRCRAFT WHERE COMPARABILITY
WAS POSSIBLE. IT APPEARED THAT THE MAIN EASTERN REASON FOR THE
INCLUSION OF NUCLEAR FORCES IN A SYMBOLIC REDUCTION MIGHT BE
TO SECURE A FREEZE ON SUCH FORCES. ALLIED REPRESENTATIVES
REPEATEDLY POINTED OUT THE LOGICAL FALLACY IN THE EASTERN
ARGUMENT THAT A SYMBOLIC REDUCTION OF NUCLEAR FORCES WOULD REDUCE
THE DANGER OF NUCLEAR WAR.

5. THE GROUP AGREED THAT THE ALLIED REPRESENTATIVES AT THE
SEVENTH INFORMAL MEETING, TO BE HELD ON 25 MARCH, SHOULD RAISE
THE SUBJECTS OF "US AND SOVIET GROUND FORCES AND ASSOCIATED
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MEASURES, TO INCLUDE STABILIZING MEASURES." SPEAKING NOTES
WERE ACCORDINGLY APPROVED.

6. THE GROUP AGREED THAT ALLIED REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD AGREE
TO A "SECOND ROUND" OF INFORMAL MEETINGS TO BE HELD BEFORE THE
EASTER RECESS ON THE BASIS OF ONE SESSION FOR EACH OF THE TWO
AGREED ITEMS, NAMELY "GROUND FORCES OF THE DIRECT PARTICIPANTS"
AND "OTHER TOPICS." HUMES

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